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ILLINOIS CATTLE INVENTORY & CALF CROP

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ILLINOIS
COOPERATIVE CROP
REPORTING SERVICE

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CATTLE INVENTORY AND CALF CROP

ILLINOIS

Cattle Inventory Down 8 Percent

The number of cattle and calves in Illinois as of January 1, 1978 is estimated at 2,950,000 head, according to the Illinois Cooperative Crop Reporting Service. The January 1 number is 8% below a year earlier, 5% below the July 1, 1977 estimate of 3,115,000 head, and the first time since January 1, 1940 that the number dropped below 3 million head. All classes in the inventory declined except heifers being kept for beef cow and milk cow replacements, which increased 10% and 11% respectively. Beef cow numbers declined 60,000 head from a year earlier but milk cows declined only 1,000. Illinois slipped from 12th to 13th place among all States in the total number of cattle January 1, 1978.

Value Up 3 Percent

The total value of all cattle and calves in Illinois on January 1, 1978 was \$693.3 billion compared with \$672 billion a year earlier. The average value per head at \$235 was up \$25 from a year earlier and more than offset the decline in inventory number.

Calf Crop Down 4 Percent

An estimated 910,000 calves were born on Illinois farms in 1977 compared with 950,000 in 1976. The 1977 Illinois calf crop was the smallest since records began in 1924.

Cattle Operation Numbers Down

The number of Illinois operations with cattle at any time during 1977 is estimated at 60,000, a decline of 1,000 from a year earlier. Milk cow operations were unchanged at 9,000.

UNITED STATES

Inventory Down 4 Percent

All cattle and calves in the U.S. on January 1, 1978 totaled 116.3 million head, down 5% from a year earlier and 9% below January 1, 1976. This represents the third consecutive year of herd reduction in the current cattle cycle.

All cows and heifers that have calved at 49.7 million head are down 5% from January 1, 1977. The number on July 1, 1977 at 52.2 million was down 3% from a year earlier.

Beef cows at 38.7 million are down 6% from January 1, 1977 and 12% below January 1, 1976. Milk cows at 10.9 million are down 1% from January 1, 1977 and 1976. Other classes on January 1 and the changes from last year and two years ago, respectively are as follows: all heifers over 500 pounds, 17.7 million, down 4% and 5%; beef replacement heifers, 5.8 million, down 11% and 19%; milk replacement heifers, 3.9 million, virtually unchanged and down 2%; other heifers, 8.0 million, down 1% and up 8%;

steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.8 million, down 1% and 2%; bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.5 million, down 5% and 11%; heifers, steers, and bulls under 500 pounds, down 9% and 14%.

Calf Crop Down 3 Percent

The 1977 calf crop is estimated at 46.1 million, down 3% from 1976 and 8% below 1975. This year a larger percent of the calf crop was born during the January-June period than during recent years. Death losses of cattle and calves were about one-fifth above last year due to the unusually cold weather in early and late 1977.

The value of all cattle and calves on January 1, 1978 is estimated at \$27.0 billion, a 7% increase over a year earlier.

A \$26 increase in average value per head to \$232 more than offset the 5% decline in the January 1 inventory.

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CATTLE: Number and value, calf crop and number of farms, Illinois, 1976-78

Class	July 1, 1976	Jan. 1, 1977	July 1, 1977	Jan. 1, 1978
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
All cattle	3,200	3,200	3,115	2,950
Cows and heifers that have calved.	1,037	1,034	1,042	973
Beef cows.	794	800	809	740
Milk cows.	243	234	233	233
Heifers 500 lbs. and over	621	624	610	611
For beef cow replacement	109	115	96	127
For milk cow replacement	83	80	93	89
Other heifers	429	429	421	395
Steers 500 lbs. and over	726	717	588	640
Bulls 500 lbs. and over	48	51	53	47
Heifers, steers, and bull calves				
under 500 lbs.	768	774	822	679
Number of cattle farms	--	61	--	60
Number of milk cow farms	--	9	--	9
Value per head (dollars)	--	210	--	235
Value of all cattle (dollars). . .	--	672,000	--	693,250
		1976		1977
Calves born	--	950	--	910

CATTLE: Number and value, calf crop and number of farms, United States, 1976-78

Class	July 1, 1976	Jan. 1, 1977	July 1, 1977	Jan. 1, 1978
	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.	Thous.
All cattle	133,659	122,810	130,195	116,265
Cows and heifers that have calved.	53,940	52,424	52,171	49,677
Beef cows.	42,882	41,389	41,175	38,747
Milk cows.	11,058	11,035	10,996	10,930
Heifers 500 lbs. and over	18,919	18,473	18,356	17,700
For beef cow replacement	6,527	6,529	5,839	5,834
For milk cow replacement	3,942	3,888	4,005	3,896
Other heifers	8,450	8,057	8,512	7,971
Steers 500 lbs. and over	18,671	16,885	18,652	16,775
Bulls 500 lbs. and over	2,759	2,665	2,685	2,540
Heifers, steers, and bull calves				
under 500 lbs.	39,370	32,363	38,331	29,574
Number of cattle farms	--	1,834.9	--	1,788.7
Number of milk cow farms	--	424.0	--	403.4
Value per head (dollars)	--	206	--	232
Value of all cattle (dollars). . .	--	25,251,635	--	27,028,660
		1976		1977
Calves born	--	47,440	--	46,057

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